



City of Huntington Beach Planning and Building Department

STAFF REPORT

TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Scott Hess, AICP, Director of Planning and Building
BY: Rosemary Medel, Associate Planner *RM*
DATE: August 12, 2014

SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 14-004 (CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014/15)

APPLICANT: City of Huntington Beach, Public Works Department, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

PROPERTY OWNER: City of Huntington Beach, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

LOCATION: Citywide

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

- ♦ General Plan Conformance No. 14-004 request:
 - Evaluate Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2014/15 for compliance with the General Plan.
- ♦ Staff's Recommendation: Approve General Plan Conformance No. 14-004 based upon the following:
 - The proposed projects conform to the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to:

“Adopt Resolution No. 1680, approving General Plan Conformance No. 14-004 with findings (Attachment Nos. 1 and 2).”

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The Planning Commission may take alternative actions such as:

- A. “Deny General Plan Conformance No. 14-004 with findings for denial.”
- B. “Continue General Plan Conformance No. 14-004 and direct staff accordingly.”

PROJECT PROPOSAL:

General Plan Conformance No.14-004 represents a request, pursuant to Section 65401 of the California Government Code, by the City of Huntington Beach to determine if the 2014/15 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The 2014/15 CIP is a list of proposed projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the next fiscal year.

ISSUES:

General Plan Conformance:

The only issue to consider as part of this request is if the proposed CIP for fiscal year 2014/15 is in conformance to the City's General Plan. The CIP conforms to the following goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan:

I. FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects:

1. Downtown Parking Structure Improvements
This project will provide safety improvements, including staircase rehabilitation, LED lighting and painting.
2. Police Department Lobby Improvements
This project will provide ADA improvements and reconfiguration of the lobby to enhance security.
3. Fire Station No. 8 – Heil Renovation
This project will provide improvements to address accessibility and gender accommodations.
4. Lifeguard and Jr. Lifeguard Rollup Door Replacement
This project will replace the roll up doors required due to the marine environment.
5. Various Roof Replacements
Replace the existing roof of various City Buildings, which have reached the end of their useful life. The Facilities include: Lake Fire Station, Magnolia Fire Station and the Park, Tree, and Landscape Main building.

B. General Plan Policies:

LU 13.1.1 Allow for the continuation of existing public and private institutional, cultural, educational, and health uses at their present locations and development of new uses in areas designated on the Land Use Plan Map in accordance with Policy 7.1.1.

PF 6.1.3 Maintain or improve the governmental facilities and services in order to meet the adopted levels of service and standards established in the Growth Management Element.

II. PARKS AND BEACHES

A. Planned Projects

1. Arena Soccer Artificial Turf Replacement
This project will replace the arena soccer artificial turf at the Sports Complex.
2. Central Park Electrical Upgrades
This project will replace transformers high voltage electrical lines.
3. Worthy Park Reconfiguration
This project will improve Worthy Park, including demolition of the racquetball court to provide additional amenities and a public restroom.

B. General Plan Policies:

RCS 4.1 Improve and modernize existing parks and facilities to overcome existing design deficiencies and deteriorated conditions.

RCS 4.1.2 Initiate an equipment “modernization” program to enhance the provision of services to local residents and visitors. (I-RCS 7)

III. STREETS AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects

1. Atlanta Avenue Widening
This project will widen the south side of Atlanta Avenue (Delaware to Huntington) in order to meet the Master Plan of Arterial Highways.
2. Gothard Street and Center Avenue Rehabilitation
This project will rehabilitate Gothard and Center upon completion of the adjacent development projects.
3. Utica Bicycle Boulevard
This project will create a bicycle friendly boulevard along Utica (Main to Beach) in conformance with the Bicycle Master Plan.
4. Traffic Signal Modification Projects
Modify the traffic signal at the intersection of Main/Florida, Gothard/Talbert, Gothard/Heil, and Springdale/McFadden to provide more efficient operation.

B. General Plan Policies:

CE 1.2.1 Enhance circulation system standards for roadway and intersection classifications, right-of-way width, pavement width, design speed, capacity and associated features such as medians and bicycle lanes. (I-CE 1)

CE 1.2.3 Maintain primary truck routes that sustain an effective transport of commodities while mitigating the negative impacts on local circulation and on noise sensitive land. (I-CE-1)

CE 2.1.1 Maintain a city-wide level of service (LOS) not to exceed LOS “D” for intersections during the peak hours. (I-CE 1 and I-CE 4)

CE 2.1.2 Maintain a city-wide level of service (LOS) for links not to exceed LOS “C” for daily traffic with the exception of Pacific Coast Highway south of Brookhurst Street. (I-CE 1 and I-CE 4)

CE 2.1.3 Identify and improve roadways and intersections that are approaching, or have reached, unacceptable levels of service. (I-CE 1)

CE 6.1.10 Implement appropriate traffic devices and operational programs throughout the community to ensure that conflicts between pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles are minimized and safety enhanced. (I-CE 1)

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) ensures that City facilities continue to be adequately accessible and maintained in order to provide services to residents and visitors. The CIP ensures that an adequate amount of new circulation and access improvements are developed and maintained to support existing and future development. CIP projects will provide continued improvements to streets, bike lanes and traffic signals. The CIP ensures that existing parks and facilities retain the parks in the best condition. Capital improvements maintain an integral circulation infrastructure allowing the movement of people and goods throughout the City.

Zoning Compliance: Not applicable.

Urban Design Guidelines Conformance: Not applicable.

Environmental Status:

The General Plan conformance review is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15306, Class 6 of the California Environmental Quality Act, which states that information collection which does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource is exempt from any environmental review.

Coastal Status: Not applicable.

Design Review Board: Not applicable.

Subdivision Committee: Not applicable.

Other Departments Concerns and Requirements:

The Public Works Department, acting as applicant for General Plan Conformance No. 14-004, has reviewed and is processing the Capital Improvement Program request through the City Council. There are no concerns from other departments.

Public Notification:

General Plan Conformances are non-public hearing items and do not require legal public notification.

Application Processing Dates:

DATE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION:

July 7, 2012

MANDATORY PROCESSING DATE(S):

August 15, 2014 (within 40 days of submittal)

ANALYSIS:

The Government Code of the State of California, Section 65401, requires that a local planning agency review a list of proposed projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the ensuing fiscal year for conformance with the local General Plan. This list of proposed projects is contained in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The Public Works Department has submitted a CIP for fiscal year 2014/15. The role of the Planning Commission in reviewing a CIP is to ensure the conformity of each project with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The benefits and funding source for individual projects listed in the CIP will then be reviewed and approved by the City Council.

Staff has identified goals, objectives, and policies that are applicable to the CIP in the General Plan Conformance section of this staff report. Because the proposed projects further the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan, staff recommends the Planning Commission approve General Plan Conformance No. 14-004 finding that the proposed CIP is in conformance with the General Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Suggested Findings of Approval – GPC No. 14-004
2. Draft Planning Commission Resolution No. 1680

SH:MBB:RM:kd

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL

GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 14-004

FINDINGS FOR PROJECTS EXEMPT FROM CEQA:

The Planning Commission finds that the proposed project will not have any significant effect on the environment and is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15306 of the CEQA Guidelines because the project involves information collection which does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource.

FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL – GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 14-004:

1. The 2014/15 Capital Improvement Program conforms to the following goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan:

LU 13.1.1 Allow for the continuation of existing public and private institutional, cultural, educational, and health uses at their present locations and development of new uses in areas designated on the Land Use Plan Map in accordance with Policy 7.1.1.

PF 6.1.3 Maintain or improve the governmental facilities and services in order to meet the adopted levels of service and standards established in the Growth Management Element.

RCS 4 Ensure recreation facilities are renovated and upgraded to meet the current recreational interests of adults and youth.

RCS 4.1 Improve and modernize existing parks and facilities to overcome existing design deficiencies and deteriorated conditions.

CE 1.2.1 Enhance circulation system standards for roadway and intersection classifications, right-of-way width, pavement width, design speed, capacity and associated features such as medians and bicycle lanes.

CE 1.2.3 Maintain primary truck routes that sustain an effective transport of commodities while mitigating the negative impacts on local circulation and on noise sensitive land.

CE 2.1.1 Maintain a city-wide level of service (LOS) not to exceed LOS “D” for intersections during the peak hours.

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CE 6.1.10 Implement appropriate traffic devices and operational programs throughout the community to ensure that conflicts between pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles are minimized and safety enhanced.

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) ensures that City facilities continue to be adequately accessible and maintained in order to provide services to residents and visitors. CIP projects will provide continued improvements to sidewalks, curbs, gutters and pavement. Landscaping is enhanced to continue to improve the visual character of the city. The CIP ensures that an adequate amount of new circulation and access improvements are developed and maintained to support existing and future development. Capital improvements maintain an integral circulation infrastructure allowing the movement of people and goods throughout the City. The CIP program provides and maintains an adequate citywide water supply system, improved collection and treatment of wastewater and ensures that sufficient parking facilities are provided citywide.

RESOLUTION NO. 1680

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH FINDING THE CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015
IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
AND POLICIES OF THE GENERAL PLAN
(GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 14-004)**

WHEREAS, the Government Code of the State of California, Section 65401, provides that a local planning agency review a list of the proposed public works projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the ensuing fiscal year as to conformity with the local general plan; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has submitted a coordinated list of all capital projects recommended by City departments for the ensuing fiscal year in the form of a Capital Improvement Projects List for Fiscal Year 2014/2015; and

WHEREAS, staff has indicated applicable General Plan goals, objectives, and policies for each project included in the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Capital Improvements Program to establish conformance with the General Plan (Exhibit A).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Planning Commission of the City of Huntington Beach finds the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Planning Commission of the City of Huntington Beach at a regular meeting held on the ____ day of August 2014, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rossi Semeta, Posey, Franklin, Peterson, Pinchiff, Bixby, Kalmick

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:

Scott Hess, Secretary

Planning Commission Chair

Exhibit A – CIP Projects 2014-2015

Res 1680

ATTACHMENT NO. 2.1

EXHIBIT A

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS 2014-2015

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